

UNAWARE OF LINK

Ex-Union Chief Outlines Stand

The former president of the International Federation of Petroleum and Chemical Workers said Friday that the federation never knowingly accepted any money from the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA).

O. A. (Jack) Knight, contacted in Sun City, Ariz., said he wasn't aware of receipt of CIA money, but he didn't deny that the CIA could have funneled money through foundations to the federation.

He said he didn't have the federation's records with him and "I wouldn't want to attempt to give you information on the basis of memory."

FRIDAY REPORT

The Denver Post said in a Friday story that Knight was the prime link between the CIA and the federation, and that hundreds of thousands of dollars of CIA money went into the federation and the Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers (OCAW), of which Knight also was president. Both organizations have headquarters in Denver.

Asked about the report that he was the "prime link," Knight said, "I'm not responsible for the opinions of other people."

Knight retired as OCAW president in 1965. His 12-year tenure as president of the federation ended in November 1966.

Knight said Friday that the federation, a worldwide organization, received money from various foundations but he didn't remember what they were and how the money was spent. He referred questions to officials in Denver, but the local men refused to give details of the federation operations.

"Our activity was completely and entirely directed toward developing democratic organizations," he said. "This, by its nature, could be considered anti-Communist."